

Christmas Eve at St. Mark's

*I
Believe,
Even
Now*

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

WE GATHER

PRELUDE		Mark Hensler, euphonium
GREETING		Pastor Joe
*CAROL	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” vv. 1,2,3,6	UMH 234

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Mislansky Family

Reader : Even when the sun is hidden from sight

All: Even when the sun is hidden from sight

Reader : Even when love feels so remote

All: Even when love feels so remote

Reader : Even when God is silent

All: Even when God is silent

Reader : Even then, we believe.

All: We believe in the presence of Emmanuel—God with us.

Reader: This is the night we celebrate that the Holy came in human form to be light in our lives to speak to us, touch us, comfort us, and call us.

Holy One, we thank you for the glimpse of heaven on earth in the faces and the light of those around us. Even in the midst of fear, of challenge, of struggle—even when our view is obscured by clouds of doubt, You have ignited the flame of hope, love, joy, and peace within us.

All: Let us glow with its brilliance from the inside out. Amen.

CAROL	“Joy to the World” vv. 1, 2, 4	UMH 246
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WE PROCLAIM

CHILDREN’S TIME TO SHINE (sign language)		Peggy Smith
1. This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine		
2. Don’t Let satan blow it out! I’m gonna let it shine.		
3. Hide it under a bushel? NO! I’m gonna let it shine.		
4. Let it shine all over the world. I’m gonna let it shine.		

OLD TESTAMENT READING	Isaiah 52:7-10	Linda Payne
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THE WITNESS OF MUSIC	“O Holy Night”	Chris Beiser
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THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Matthew 1:18-23, Luke 1:26-38, Luke 2:1-20, Matthew 2:1-12

FIRST LESSON	Matthew 1:18-20	Robinson family
Carol	“There’s a Song in the Air” vv. 1-2	UMH 249

SECOND LESSON Solo	Matthew 1:21-23 “Heirlooms”	Edmundson family Hannah Hensler
THIRD LESSON Carol	Luke 1:26-33 “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”	Dutey/Anderson Family UMH 240
FOURTH LESSON Solo	Luke 1:34-38 Sue & Mark Luken, Riley & Elliott “Birthday of a King”	Penny Dole
FIFTH LESSON Carol	Luke 2:1-5 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”	Saylor Family UMH 230
SIXTH LESSON Solo	Luke 2:6-7 “Mary, Did You Know”	Chambers Family Heather Chambers
SEVENTH LESSON Carol	Luke 2:8-14 “Away in a Manger”	Becker Family UMH 217
EIGHTH LESSON Solo	Luke 2:15-20 <i>The wise men follow the star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.</i> “Breath of Heaven”	Theodor Family Sue Luken
NINTH LESSON Flute Solo Solo	Matthew 2:1-6 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” “Little Drummer Boy”	Leyrer Family Kayla Goodman Ben Hartwig
SCRIPTURE READING Carol	Matthew 2:7-12 “What Child is This”	Theiss Family UMH 219

WE RESPOND

OFFERING, and ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOLO	“Special Delivery”	Chris Beiser
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WE GO FORTH

INVITATION	“BE A WITNESS TO THE LIGHT” <i>Lights out on cue</i>	Pastor Joe
CAROL <i>Light your candle</i>	“Silent Night”	UMH 239
PRAYER	<i>Lights On</i>	

BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Joseph M. Payne
Administrative Assistant	Brenda Smoot
Director of Music	Chris Beiser
Organist/Pianist	Sue Combs
Director of Children & Family Ministries	Peggy Smith
Director of Youth Ministries	Julie Mislansky
Pastor Emeritus	Bob Klingel

OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Liturgist	Linda Payne
Sound	Rick Kiefer
Camera and Editor	Mark Hensler
Screen	Jennie Marshall

POINSETTIAS

In honor of our grandchildren - Sophia, Tommy and Millie from Rick & Jennie Marshall.

In memory of our parents, Karen Mason & Gary Marshall from Rick & Jennie Marshall.

In memory of husband, French Smoot from Brenda.

In honor of our family from Dick & Edith Davis.

In honor of daughter, Missy, from Alethea LaMar

In honor of Nicole, Joey & Jennifer from Missy LaMar.

In memory of Lou Fassnacht from Holly & Pat.

In memory of Naomi Rowland from Holly & Pat.

In memory of our parents, Bill & Gennie Summers and Bill Dichtl from Bill & Julie Dichtl.

In memory of John McWilliam from Ann.

In memory of Bob Janosik from Carolyn & family.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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